W O R D

TOTHE

W I S E.

A POETICAL FARCE,

Most respectfully addressed to the

CRITICAL REVIEWERS.

BY T. UNDERWOOD,

Late of St. Peter's College, Cambridge; Author of the IMPARTIALIST, LIBERTY, &c. &c.

WITH

An Apology to the Ingenuity of Mr. HUGH KELLY, for the Title of the Piece.

> ——Ridentem dicere verum Quid vetat?—

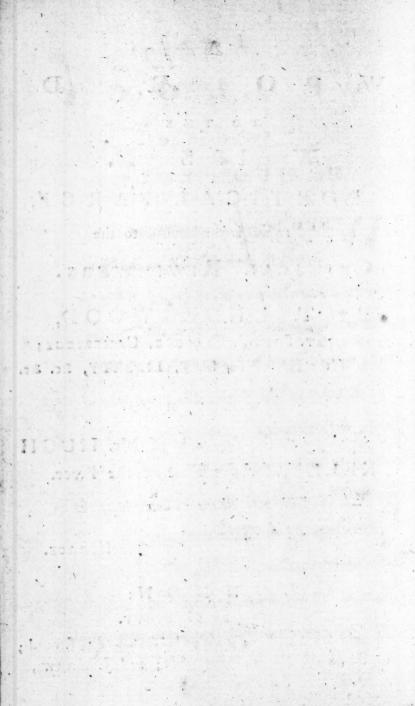
HORACE.

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M DCC LXX.



APOLOGY

ADDRESSED TO

MR. HUGHKELLY.

"WHEN fiery Comets from on high Brandish their Tresses in the Sky,"

Astonish'd Mortals trembling view,

Dread the Event-so strangely new.

Thus, when a Bard of SHAKESPEARE's Ray,

(The KELLY of the present Day)

Shines, with that vast dramatic Fire,

Superior to each modern Esquire *

Invidious Fear-Heart-springing Rage,

The Gnatlings of the Times engage;

Malice invents a Thousand Lies,

Detraction, all her Fund supplies.

^{*} A Title frequently assumed by many of the present Writers.

APOLOGY.

To fill the Cup of foul Difgrace,

They whifper, Kelly holds a Place,

Supports the ministerial Plan,

In his own Ledger—lo! their Man——

Forgive (at least) ILLUSTRIOUS BARD!

This Tribute—of my best Regard;

Tis Gratitude—for Favours shown;

To Gratitude I'm ever known;

APOLOGY.

Merit of ev'ry Kind I love *,

Exalted Worth—like yours must prove,

The Boast—the Triumph of the Age!

Thou very—CROMWILL of the Stage.

May length of Years—increasing Fame,

Conspire, to swell—your deathless Name.

And—(if you'll grant one Sprig of Bays,)

Long may you live—in these just Lays.

The General's

Robertion, Lieutenant.

The Lines upon your Falle-Delicary in my Volume are my Witness.

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

length of Years -- increasing Fame

10 Man 172 312--- No

Hamilton-General-

(Vulgo a Publisher.)

Guthrie, Captain.

Robertson, Lieutenant.

Thompson, Enfign.

Mungo-

The General's Devil.

Scene of Action-Falcon-Court-Fleet-street.

A

WORD

TOTHE

W I S E.

THE Stricken Deer per Force must weep,

An Eye of Care admits not Sleep,

When anxious Fear—perplexing Doubt,

Compel the Mind—to rove about;

The downy Pillow seems a Stone,

And the worst State—to be alone.

B

Thus

Thus harrass'd—with Himself at Strife,

(No Comfort in his loving Wife)

Our General—in haste arose,

Impatient—huddl'd on his Cloaths,

Calls for his Mungo—trusty Slave,

Who serves him—secret—as the Grave:

"Mungo, advance"—in lordly Note,

Extemp're, thus—in Troth by Rote *:

Soon as the Morn, in Ruffet clad,
And Sol reviews, the Good—and Bad,

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^{*} Extemporalis factus est meus Rhetor MARTIAL.

3

Hafte thee, with feather'd Speed, convey My Orders—for the coming Day; Command my Caledonian Band, You know 'em all—their ev'ry Stand, Whether in Garret-mounted high, Or, grov'ling, in a Cellar lie-Bid 'em repair—in Council meet, Of high Concerns—I mean to treat; No common Theme. - Our kingly State, Though late so noble, firm, and great, Shakes from its Basis—and I dread Th' impending Ruin-on my Head.-But why this waste of Sense on thee? Slaves must obey—suffice—I'm free.

te

A WORD

The Thund'rer spoke—like Jove of old,

As oft in Pagan-story told,

Whose Nod imperial shook the Sky,

And Gods, with trembling, down-cast Eye,

Astonish'd, paus'd.—Thus chill'd with Awe,

Obedient to his Ruler's Law,

The pliant Mungo took to Heel,

Twas his to execute—or feel.

Who thus his Lord accosts in Turn:

viental at O-tenedT nome.

Leaff ym no--niu'A gnionogai 'A'l'

Your Orders I've fulfill'd with Care,

And at the Hour, with duteous Ear,

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V

Your loyal Clan will hither speed,

I told 'em—'twas on pressing Need.—

Enough! enough!—Their Treat prepare

Stale Bread, fome Cheese, and Trueman's Beer,

Let's see—It wants an Hour,—or more;

Mungo, attend the Call of Door,

Conduct 'em to the usual Pit,

He finish'd—and with Look profound,

Retreating, fix'd his Eye to Ground,

With all that solemn Pedant-air

Which Gravity affects to wear,

Next to myself, let Guthrie fit.

At Council-time—anon—you'll find

With what Catonic Force of Mind—

Mansfield himself's with Envy blind—

But why anticipate his Praise?

From his own Mouth—in nervous Phrase,

You'll hear, and must approve the Man,

Deny his Merit, if you can.——

Soft at the Door,—a Rap precise,

How critical—so timely nice,

And now the Tread of Foot I hear,

Their Vet'ran Chief he snails the Stair:

Not Age alone—by Learning most,

He's render'd—sapless, as a Post—

"The Hero comes"——found, found the Lyre,
O! for a Muse, a Muse of Fire!

To hail his laurell'd, pension'd Brow,
He's got the Sop, no Matter how.—

Conceive his Dignity——and Weight,
His very Silence props——the State.—

Behold, with what Majestic Air

He takes his Place——the second Chair.

Oh!——galling to his madd'ning Brain,
Shall Hamilton o'er Guthrie reign!

A fecond Knock—and to the View,
In all the Pomp of Rev'rend Hue,

Lo! Robert/on the Sage appears,
In Learning—(not so full of Years)
He nearly equals Gutbrie's Name,
Aspires to rival his wast Fame!
Observe, with what a courteous Grace,
(Depicted strongly in his Face)
He greets, sincerely greets, his Brother——
But Harpies prey on one another.

In these refin'd, enlighten'd Days,

The only Path to letter'd Praise,

With jaundic'd Eye and Heart of Gall

Dissect at large,—a tilt at all,

7

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Though Modesty, with Worth combin'd,

Should stamp Conviction on the Mind,

'Tis Weakness—Folly to admit,

And must impeach—your Judgment—Wit,

To give Desert—its Tribute due,

The Spleen-Struck Keley* seels it true,

A noble Track!—Go on t—pursue!

What Marvel then—since this the Mode,

(And sew but travel Fashion's Road)

This matchless Genius is defired to remind himself of the abusive Treatment which the Author received from him some Months ago s Mr. U. would have publicly called upon him to have desended it, but found, upon frequence Application to get a Letter addressed to Mr. Kelly in the News-papers, that his superior Instructe (which is still very prevalent) deseated all Mr. U.'s Endeavoure to effect it.—Suring and elities.

That Robertson should Guthrie hate,

And envy thus—his higher State?

Connected in the same Design—

You'd think, they must—for ever join,

Far otherwise, like Beasts of Prey,

If nought but Carrion self's in Way,

Themselves, with Quinty Gout, they'd eat,

And glory in the savage Treat.—

The noble Pair expecting fat,

Without a Word of focial Chat,

For him who first the Offer made,

To hold Discourse, it would degrade.

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All filent then—but deep in Thought,

Divining of the Cause, which brought—

What mighty Subject!—the Intent—

Why such a hasty Mandate sent!—

Behold the Babylonian Blade *,

Thompson, well vers'd in Adam's Trade +,

Came stalking up—his Brothers greeted.—

Thus—the Triumvirate completed—

To keep his hireling Slaves in Awe,
(So absolute—his Will is Law)

^{*} This Seer wrote against Free-masonry; in which Treatise, he very beautifully termed that Order the WHORE OF BARYLON.

[†] Gardening.

A proper Interval expires,

For so the Farce of State requires,

Before, reveal'd—to crown their Fame

The Lord—their stern Dictator came.——

Impatient for the rifing Sun,

Like Indians who to worship run,

With zealous Eye—attentive Ear—

The wish of each—Appear! Appear!

The Mountain teems,—What monstrous Birth!

Protect th' Inhabitants of Earth,

Ye pitying Gods!—Spare your surprise,

Observe—nay look with steady Eyes,

A pigmy Mouse—no more—no more,

Pomposo Hamilton's at Door.—

What Condescension !——Sure I dream,

The like before was never seen,

Yes——as I live, a Smile serene;

And see——as passing to his Chair,

He deigns to bow——with placid Air——

By Pharoah's Foot——'tis wondrous odd——

But even Jove, that First-rate God,

When, to amuse, or serve a Turn,

With that familiar Grace cou'd burn,

So meek——so humble in Attire,

Discarding all his Godship's Fire,

In rustic Form, a Shepherd's Trim,

Cou'd visit Earth—just for the Whim.

Thus, if th' Allusion you'll admit,

(Are Similies a Proof of Wit?)

Pomposo, having inward Fear,

A Point to serve—his anxious Care,

With this fleek Policy array'd,

The very Cunning of his Trade,

Design'd, to preposses their Mind,

To aid-complete what he defign'd.

Suppose him scated on his Throne,

The Guards withdrawn—themselves alone,

Thrice

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Thrice he essay'd,—and thrice his Tongue,

(Albeit with sweetest Music hung)

Thrice did that slippant Member fail,

Corroding Fears his Heart assail,

At length bis fost'ring God of Wit*,

Hov'ring unseen—above the Pit,

Touch'd gently—with his magic Wand,

Dissolv'd, at once, the painful Band.—

"My worthy Clan-right learned Men,
From whose sagacious skilful Pen,
Such golden Harvest have I known,
With present Gratitude I own,

. Mescusy

Such Monthly Benefit in Store, That all acknowledgments are poor i How must it then distract my Soul, To think-to feel-our vast Controul, Our Pow'r, fo absolute of late, Despotic-in the letter'd State, How must it grieve __afflict __difmay, To fee our Kingdom pals-away, Its Influence fade, from Day to Day-Rebellious times !-- ill-omen'd Race! Where, in the present shall we trace The least Remains of Virtue past? And Gratitude's a fleeting Blaft,

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How shall I tell!—what Form of Speech!

The Sorrow of my Heart can reach?

For know, my Caledonian Band,

Our Diffolution's near at hand;

A Spirit, obstinate in Ill,

Which dares oppose your-utmost Skill,

Has spread Contagion far and wide-

Nor will it suffer, to preside,

Your polish'd Labours-or admit

Yourselves-fole arbiters of Wit-

The Public or a factious Crew,

Who late implicit bow'd to You,

Confess'd no Judgment of their own,

But all Submission to your Crown,

V

Now, (by that Demon, Common Senfe, To which they madly feign Pretence) Declare—refolve—by Reason's Aid, They'll quite extirpate this fweet Trade; Judge for 'emfelves-nor longer wear Those Chains—which Nature cannot bear-Prefumptuous !-- Infamy of Thought !-Detefted Fiend !- by Malice wrought !-What !- Can they-frantic in their Rage, (Oh! 'tis a base licentious Age!) Pull down, with facrilegious Hands, Their Idol? ____break those focial Bands, Which long upheld our fair Domain, Must we, alas! no longer reign?

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But, like the wretched scribbling Crew,

(Death to your Fame—my Int'rest too)

Neglected pass—Farewell—Review—

Farewell—to all my flatt'ring Dreams,

Contented with my little Means,

Must I then live a common Life,

Adieu th' Ambition of my Wise,

No more, dear Bet, in Converse treat,

Of Carriage, and your Country-seat,

Far otherwise the Gods decree,

And this poor Court *—is all for ME—

"But why this Waste of fruitless Grief,
From You-From You I hope Relief:

D 2

The

But,

^{*} Falcon Court, Fleet Street.

The Times demand your ev'ry skill,

The utmost Efforts of your Quill,

For this Intent—to plan—contrive,

And keep our glimm'ring Lamp alive,

My Summons—to attend me here."

-Our Thanks await-your early Care.

Pin Your David

. done Bet, in Converse true

il no il montale n

"Guthrie, our Chief-right-worthy Sage,
Thou Boast!—and Wonder of the Age!
Your Sentiments—the first propose;
And—if I shou'd incline to dose,
I grant Permit—tread on my Toes."

He ceas'd.—With felf-important Look,

Each Muscle—titl'd as a Book,

Guthrie arose, thrice strok'd his Cinin,

Then condescended—to begin.

"Sir Manager, with patient Ears,
Your Grievances—and threat'ning Fears,
I've mark'd—the Cause—deplore the Times,
Pregnant indeed, with baneful Crimes!
Whether of State-affairs we treat,
Or Letters, our peculiar Seat,
Alarming both.—To what Degree,
Under that specious, thread-bare Plea

He

Of Freedom, have we dar'd to rife?

Oh! monstrous! to what Giant-fize,

Does Infolence erect her Creft,

With fcorpions, dares affail that Breaft,

Where Love and Honesty conspire,

With all a Father's fond Defire,

To fhed continual Bleffings down,

Thou Best, Great Man-without a Crown-

What Scandal then—unheard before,

(May such a curse return no more)

That an Assassin's poisonous Hand

Shou'd scatter Discord o'er the Land?

With fell Contempt, presume to tread,

Infulting, on a Monarch's Head?

Treat Majesty with public Scorn, A JUNIUS winds Sedition's Horn-Apostate Wretch !-his Parts confess'd, Can these alone insure you bles'd? Th' intrinsic Merit-doubtless lies In the just Use-if good-then wife-But whither leads my honest Zeal, So much for England's Peace I feel, All other Cares are mean, and light, As larger Objects fix the Sight. -Now, to return, with prudent Skill Investigate the Cause of Ill, Or, otherwise, we must sustain Effects of Course. The Body's Pain,

Not HEBERDEN can put to Flight,

Unless he knows the Seat a-right.

-But to the Caufe-What can it be?

We're losing Ground—that's plain to ME;

Our boafted Labours strangely fall-

Anon-we sha'nt be read at all,

A Drug-at ev'ry Penny Stall-

What may occasion this Neglect?

Why treated thus with Difrespect?

I have it-or in Part, I'm fure,

The Grievance first-and eke the Cure,

Our Monthly Rivals plainly show *,

And what we feel, we can't but know.

In

^{*} The Advertisement affixed to the last Monthly Review, for Fe-bruary, 1770.

In their own Style—they bring a Charge

('Gainst Booksellers and Pubs * at large)

Of Treason—'gainst their letter'd State,

Denounce such Vengeance—Turk-like Hate,

If for the future they profane—

Presume to take their Names in vain—

'Tis well-refolv'd——a wife Decree,

We shou'd support our Dignity,

Not suffer ev'ry paltry Elf,

For dirty Lucre——to himself,

To fix our Patent-zeal of Worth,

On Mongrel-works,——mere Grubstreet birth,

* Pro Publishers.

n

Our Fiat—either damns—or faves,

But take it from ourselves—Ye Knaves!

Or know—'tis at your Peril left,

Desist—forbear—indeed you'd best.

——Thanks to these Monthly Worthies then,
Who wield (like us) the secret Pen,
This Forg'ry to the public Light
Detected—sets their Credit right,
We too—by their Example led,
May check this growing Evil's Head,
An Edict—of the like Import,
Must iffue from our learned Court,

The fame licentious—venal Crew, Have oft attack'd our Province too, And as the Sons of GALEN fay, Meet a Disorder in its Way .. In Time apply Prevention's Balm, Thus you'll escape a World of Harm, -Still may we hold fuperior Rule, And laugh at ev'ry felf-wife Fool. Remember, Sirs, 'tis my Advice. Promulge this EDICT in a trice, Let our next critical Esfay, Announce it to the Blaze of Day,

[·] Venienti occurrite morbe.

-Yet further-weif you wish to thrive,-Our drooping Credit to revive-In justice-yes, Sir Chief, I'll speak, Tho' Rage shou'd blanch your fading Cheek You ought-you must advance- "How !- What! Beware-no more-thou factious Scot." (The Gen'ral storms)-bold-like a Man I'll freely on-do what you can-Advance you must-our Pay increase-Ninepence a Day !- in War or Peace. Not for myfelf I urge this Suit, Thanks to my Worth-and friendly Bute, I'm of the Quorum—yearly paid, Good as the Bank .- This lurking Trade,

You

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You know it well—is't my Support?

No, no—my Sunshine's from the Court,

For Fame alone—I've leagu'd with you:

That Fund complete—FAREWELL REVIEW.

He paus'd-exhausted Nature gave,

A sudden Stop-disclos'd a grave *.

Confusion sat on ev'ry Face,

The Gen'ral too—some marks of Grace,

Some Pity for his haples Fate

Bespoke—and check'd his rising Hate—

^{*} The author cannot but regret the loss of their Chiefiain just at this crifis, as he had further fuel in his budget—but—de mortuis nil nis bonum.

—Grim Death—whose awful—stern—Arrest
O'ertakes the Bad—the Good—the Best,
Here made a Gap——

To-morrow, Friends, attend me here,

Pomposo said—then feign'd a Tear—

The Morrow came—a like Display

Of Sun—as the preceding Day,

Nature in all her Works the same.

No jarring Atom—in her Frame

Pure Harmony—consistent all,

Let Kings—or humble Coblers fall.

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T

'Tis an ill Wind, our Proverb goes, The very—very worst that blows, Which proves adverse to all Mankind. Dame Fortune's ever pictur'd blind; And truly fo-poor Guthrie's Death, Who Yesterday resign'd his Breath-A Vacancy-full Captain's rank, Became at once—an envy'd Blank, Unlike the vet'ran Soldier's Lot, Whose Services are soon forgot; Though in defence of Country's right, He's bled-in ev'ry dreadful Fight, But when the Times of Peace are come, The rude Alarms of Fife-and Drum,

No longer vibrate on the Ear,

He's left, to fatten-upon Air-

Whilst the raw Stripling from the School,

Mamma's fweet Darling, plays the Fool;

At George's and the Bedford-Rout

You'll fee its nightly Strut-about.

Observe that martial Cock of Hat,

Its maiden Blade-but what of that?

High-born are these commission'd Things,

From Interest-Preferment springs.

Well-has th' ingenious Worr faid,

"That of all Prigs, whom Fashion ever bred,

" The most disgustful-is the Prig in Red."

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But in this letter'd Corps you'll see,

Succession is—of course their Plea,

Guthrie remov'd——(Health to the Hour

That snatch'd him from his Seat of Pow'r

The pious Robertson exclaims)

"You're Jehu now—give me the Reins,
Nor doubt—in spite of low'ring Weather,
I'll keep—our shatter'd Fleet together,
My Predecessor's Plan I know,
And as Escutcheons daily show *
To Merit—that is gone we bend,
Envy hersels—may be a Friend,

* Post funera Virtus.

ut

His Plan I've mark'd and will purfue, A Me probatum of and You Then be it known we damn or spare, Can paint each Author, black or fair, Just as retaining Fees shoal in-Pray how-is this a mortal Sin?-But-as a Tribute to the Sense, (Of our late Captain-taken hence) I do infift-on no Pretence, That Edict-fhall be laid afide, Which yesterday-with conscious Pride He urg'd-nor the Advance of Pay, You must ___ Sir Manager, obey,

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Or take yourfelf the Helm for Mr. I'll venture out no more to Sea; Lieutenant Thompson-and myself, Have various Means, to glean the Pelf; Sermons I write-You've read me once *, Compar'd—the canting Dodd's—a Dunce. The well-bred WARNER + dares not vie, Not at his club ‡ so great as I, Where all the Cream of Stratford fit To fwallow all their Paftor's wit, A true Right Reverend Politic.

[•] A fingle Fast-Sermon it feems—is all the avoided literary Pro-

⁺ Rev. Doctor of West-Ham, Effex.

I Kept at the King's-head, Stratford, every Saturday night.

My Parts I know—your present Fear—

Retain me—for I'm worth your Care."

At this—the Pedant Thompson rose,

('Tis fit—he shou'd his Mind disclose)

"My Friend (the Captain) well has said,

How can you pray—for daily Bread,

And not allow—a Quantum suff.

To those—by whom you richly stuff—

Mere Charity—a grateful Heart—

Shou'd force you—to a Christian's Part,

And if you will not bleed your Purse,

(O! Avarice—thou deadly Curse!)

I'll

Or

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I'll quit your List—determine then,

Or take the Field—without your Men,

A goodly Figure!—what Eclat,

Yourself a Fabius *—by the Law!"—

"Peace, dear Lieutenant—spare your Wit,

I own your Fort, am fairly hit,

(The Gen'ral checks)—yes, to content,

I will advance—you shan't repent,

Still to your Charge—remain but true,

No Fault—in me—no Plaint—in you—

-But soft-the Month ebbs out amain,
And April-brings her foolish Train,

^{*} Maximus-qui cunctando reftituit-Rem.

To Quill !----away !------propare to meet,

Her first Approach-------with usual Treat---

Add to the EDICT—pre-design'd,

A spice of Advertisement—kind,

Proclaim—a vacancy remains—

That amply we'll requite the Pains

Of any Sage—whose critic Pate

Aspires to join our noble—State—

An Ensign's Rank—his first Reward,

And afterwards—as We regard.

Away!—away!—most worthy Two!——
The World's a-thirst for our REVIEW."

on classificate into-section

The Author presents his most friendly Respects to the Monthly Besiegers (of the Mind) and
as he is in present Expectation of unmasking their
Battery too—he promises, that he will not fail
them of a similar Attack——Pro re natâ.

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ADVERTISEMENT.

Mr. Underwood having had repeated proofs that many of the public News Papers are under secret influence (which has frequently prevented the infertion of his Advertisements) takes this opportunity to intimate to his friends in particular, and the public in general, that the publication of the second edition of his Poems, &c. (which, with additions, will make three neat pocket volumes) promised to be delivered in the month of December last, has been obliged to be deferred upon account of his late indisposition—public notice of which unavoidable delay was given in some of the papers before the expiration of December.

Mr. Underwood designs the publication of his Poems (if his health permits) about Christmas next; his Proposals are as follow.

PROPOSAL

FOR

PUBLISHING BY SUBSCRIPTION,

MISCELLANEOUS POEMS, &c.

BY T. UNDERWOOD.

CONSISTING OF

SATYRIC POEMS—POETIC EPISTLES— EPIGRAMS—SONGS, &c. &c.

CONDITIONS:

THIS Work shall be handsomely printed in Three neat Pocket Volumes (the same type as A WORD TO THE WISE)—Price to Subscribers Nine Shillings, sewed, half to be paid at the time of subscribing

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CONDITIONS.

g (for which receipts will be given) and the other of upon delivery. Subscribers names will be printed, nless desired to the contrary.

N. B. An Epistle to Thomas Gainsborough, Painter at Bath (which repeated Illnesses have so long revented the publication of) will be included in this Work.

N,

c.

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Subscriptions are taken in by J. Knox, near somerset-house in the Strand; J. Dodsley, Pallmall; G. Pearch, No. 12. Cheapside; H. Leake, at Bath; Messrs. Hollingworth, at Lynn, Norfolk, &c. by W. Green, St. Edmund's-Bury, Susfolk; and by G. Scott, Printer, Bream's-Buildings, Chancery-lane.

COMPATIONS.

(for which receipts will be given) and the other foren delivery. Subscribers names will be printed, help defined to the contrary.

M. B. An E. Mis to Tromas Cainerencount, her it Bath (which repeated Illnelies have to long that and the wall be decleded in this

Splitting are taken in by J. Knoz, were ordered to the Strand; J. Dodney, Palintall;

omerication of in the Strand; J. Dodney, Pallmall; Pearch, No. re. Cheapinds; It. Leake, set Path ; Leake, 1961, set 1961, at Lynn, Nortelle, &c. Lynn, St. Lynn, St. Edward S. Rury, St. Folk; and by G. Scott, there, Diener, Diener, Diener, Lullings, Chancery lane.

TO SERVICE

e Les . Name :